



# Sigman and super-sophs lead wrestlers to second title

J. PARKER ADAIR  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Last year, freshman Patrick Allibone was runner-up for the 149-pound NCAA Division II wrestling national championship. Last year, freshman J.D. Naig took third at 165 pounds behind two wrestlers with a combined five NCAA titles. One season ago, heavyweight Les Sigman won his second title when his opponent couldn't continue due to injury.

One year later, all three improved last year's finishes, as each won individual titles, and led UNO to win its second consecutive national championship. The Mavericks defeated Augustana 109.5-101 in the most thrilling championship

race since ... last year's.

UNO won 2004's thriller over North Dakota State on the last match of the tournament. This year, it came down to the second-to-last.

Six of nine UNO wrestlers that qualified for the tournament took home All-American honors. Each one of them scored team points that meant all the difference in the final round. Eli Dominguez, Dustin



Steve Houlton

UNO's Jeremiah Naig runs over to Head Coach Mike Denney (left) and Assistant Coach Ron Higdon after defeating UNC Pembroke's Dwayne Coward to win the 165-pound weight class.



Steve Houlton

The Mav's celebrate their second consecutive national championship.

Tovar and Steve Conlin were the other All-Americans for UNO.

Allibone moved up to 157 pounds this year, making room for Shane Unger to qualify for nationals at 149.

Allibone won his first match by pin, and his quarterfinal in double-overtime. He won his semifinal, and captured his championship bout

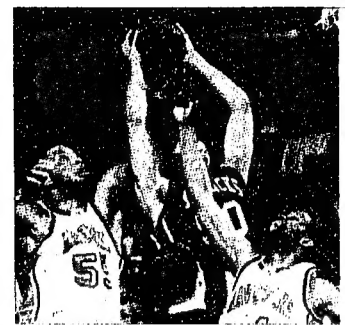
this time, so run.

"That guy has some grit," Head Coach Mike Denney said. "You watch him wrestle. He just goes after it. He can win those overtimes. He has just got some grit."

J.D. Naig wrestled like he was on a mission. The sophomore wanted to prove there was a reason he had been the top-ranked 165 pounder all season despite missing much of the first-half of the season with injuries. He pinned his first two opponents in the first period of

See SIGMAN: Page 10

## regional qualifiers



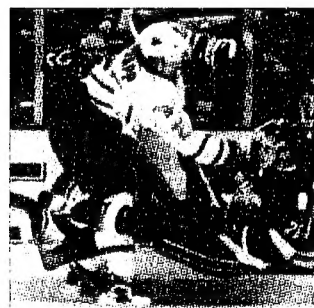
## ninth at nationals



## 6th at national



## CCHA Super 6



## national champions



# Students show support for two UNO professors

CRYSTAL R. REID  
NEWS EDITOR

Students sat down to stand up for UNO professors Pamela Jean Owens and Caroline Simpson March 7 in the office of John Christensen, the vice chancellor of academic affairs. The students were protesting a decision against retaining Owens and Simpson as professors.

The quiet crowd of about 30 students lined the walls of Christensen's office as they engaged Deborah Smith-Howell, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs, and Sheri Rogers, associate vice chancellor, in a question and answer session surrounding the procedures in which students could voice their concerns over the removal of Simpson and Owens.

Senior Alana Stednitz said that the



Angi Sada

Students protest by demonstrating a sit-in on March 7.

students were unaware of any reason why Owens and Simpson should not have been re-appointed.

"They are wonderful mentors and assets to the Omaha community and to UNO," she said.

Senior Shayla Alarie echoed that sentiment saying that Simpson is the reason she is an art history major.

"I can't see a good reason that Dr. Simpson should not be re-appointed."

While Smith-Howell and Rogers gave clear answers on procedures surrounding the hiring, re-appointment and awarding of tenure on professors, both declined to comment on the specifics surrounding Owens and Simpson.

Each recited passages from the University guidelines each instructor is given at the time of hire and Rogers

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## Omaha Weather



Today

Wednesday

Thursday

Chance Rain Show 11-37 F, 27-33 F, 30-41 F, 28-33 F

## Inside Issue

### FEATURES

Hitting the red carpet with Oscar fashion



### ENTERTAINMENT

Tekken 5: like Tekken 4, but with a higher digit

### SPORTS

Jumping phenoms team up for two titles as UNO finishes fifth

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## News Briefs

COMPILED BY CRYSTAL R. REID  
NEWS EDITOR

### Message from the Athletic Department

The UNO Athletic Department would like to thank the 131 administrators, faculty and staff that pledged more than \$20,000 to the athletic program through the payroll deduction fund drive.

Because of that support, the program continues to be a success, not only on the field of play but also in the classroom. UNO student athletes have a 3.206 cumulative GPA.

For more information about the payroll deduction fund drive, call Connie Claussen at 554-2301 or Lynn Conner at 554-4965.

### Asian American Month celebrations continue today

The UNO community is invited to attend a variety of events starting today and continuing through April 8 that will highlight Asian culture. All activities are free and open to the public.

Today:

Discussion – Asians from various ethnic groups will speak on topics related to Asian issues, civil rights and race relations

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room

Wednesday:

Asian Art Exhibit

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

MBSC Ballroom and Nebraska Room

April 8:

Asian Dancers and Cultural Exhibit

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### IS&T Graduate Fair March 31

The fair is sponsored by the UNO College of Information, Science and Technology and will be held March 31 from 5 to 8 p.m. on UNO's south campus, 1110 S. 67 St.

At the fair participants will have the opportunity to:

- Discuss program offerings with faculty
- Explore research and internship opportunities
- Tour PKI's facilities
- Meet employers who hire graduates
- Gain the perspective of current students and alumni.

Career positions held by program graduates include applications and Web site developer, computer network manager, business system analyst/manager, project manager, consultant and technology manager, software engineering and telecommunication.

For more information, contact Carla Frakes at 554-2073.

## Student agency directors and assistants looking at pay cuts

CRYSTAL R. REID  
NEWS EDITOR

The four student agencies under the student government umbrella are on the receiving end of budget cuts.

Members of student government deliberated about the Fund A budget behind closed doors March 10. The students deal only with the Fund A portion of the budget, which allocates student fees to the Student Programming Organization, The Gateway and Student Government and its agencies: the American Multicultural Student agency, Network for disAbled Students, International Student Services and the Women's Resource Center.

As a result of this meeting and previous Student Activities Budget Committee meetings, assistant directors for each of the four agencies no longer receive pay.

Director's pay has been cut from \$250 a month to \$150 a month. They are expected to now only work five hours a week instead of the previous 10.

Director of the NdS, Meghan Spence, is a little frustrated with the changes. She was the only director to present a newer, smaller budget at the final student government

meeting, in the hopes that her revised budget would save her from the cutting block.

"It's going to be a very interesting trial year," Spence said.

She said that most directors work more than the hours they are given and that they are all definitely worth the original \$250 a month.

"People involved spend lots of time away from their actual jobs," Spence said.

She also said that the cuts may make it more difficult for directors and assistants to put in the amount of time necessary for agency events.

Amber Lewis, chief administrative officer for Student Government, said that there was a lot of good debate about the changes.

Some students were for removing director's pay as well, but the general consensus was that there should be a gradual change instead of such an abrupt cut of salary.

Lewis made the point the student senators and officers do not receive any sort of pay or compensation.

"We don't get paid, and I'm usually [in the office] six hours a day," Lewis said.

## Students and state government discuss university funding requests and tight budget

CRYSTAL R. REID  
NEWS EDITOR

In a strong effort to make a statewide, university wide difference, student leaders from all of the University of Nebraska campuses gathered together at the state capitol to support two university-related bills.

The UNO Student Government orchestrated the entire first annual Student Government Conference, which drew Gov. Heineman, NU President James B. Milliken and four state senators.

The two bills discussed, LB

605 and LB 47, ask for one-to-one state matching funds for university building renovations and funds for the recruitment and retention of distinguished professors, respectively.

Gov. Heineman emphasized the importance of building Nebraska's economy to remain competitive and to keep its college graduates in state.

"I want everyone here to be able to get a good high paying job in Nebraska," Heineman said.

"We got to make sure we educate you and we got to make sure we're creating jobs."

But educating students may be harder, budget wise, in the up and coming years, according to Sen. Don Pederson.

According to Pederson, by 2025 half of the potential \$8 million budget will be taken up by Medicaid. More than 75 percent of the remaining budget will be taken by K-12 education. That leaves less than \$2 million to spread out through the four university campuses.

"We have to be very careful with the dollars we spend," Pederson said. "We have infinite needs and finite resources."

As Pederson presented the

See BUDGET REQUESTS: Page 3

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From BUDGET REQUESTS: Page 2

numbers, student senators whispered together at their tables and glanced ominously around the room.

Milliken talked about the importance of the state and the NU system working together. He emphasized the "contract"

The last senator to speak was Phillip Erdman, a UNI graduate that became a senator during his senior year in college.

According to Alex Williams, UNO Student Government public relations senator and the student responsible for coordinating the conference, Erdman was the hardest senator to get to the conference.

Erdman's experience as a young leader in the state commanded the attention of everyone present. As a young leader, he had perhaps the most relevant advice to give to the student leaders.

"You need to be here," Erdman said. "Not because the president of the university tells you to. You are not the puppets of the administration."

"You are a vital part of the central administration. Take advantage of that."

Williams said that the conference would become an annual event to let the state and the university administration know what the students do or do not support.

"We really need to make sure that they know that the students are in support of this bill," Williams said.

## Faculty does not support a change in the plus/minus grading system

CRYSTAL R. REID  
NEWS EDITOR

According to a Faculty Senate vote, there is no need for a change in the current plus/minus grading system.

The senate voted by ballot in their last meeting on March 9, on whether or not the current grading system was adequate. Exactly 80 percent of the 30 members of senate present felt strongly that the system in place should not be tampered with. Twenty percent felt that the current system is unacceptable.

Because the many senate members felt that they are all a strong representation of their respective colleges, they did not extend the ballot out for all faculty members. Jim Akers will bring the results of the ballot back to the committee dealing with the plus/minus debate.

Akers has headed the faculty senate committee dealing with the plus/minus saga. After a unanimous vote from the dean's council to change the system, Akers has sought input from other entities on campus: faculty and students. The main concern of the deans is that they have been on the receiving end of an exponentially higher amount of grade complaints due to the change in the system.

According to the survey, 25 members had no increase in complaints. Four said yes, they had noticed an increase in complaints and one member of faculty abstained.

Akers asked, "What would it be and what would be your rationale for it?"

"If we change, we have three other campuses to deal with," Akers emphasized in the meeting.

"I would not feel it an unjust system if an A+ would give them more points," Pamela Owens said.

Faculty Senate President Wally Bacon asked Student Government representative, Josh Shipman, how the students are reacting to the issue.

Shipman reported that while Student Government toyed with the idea of a cosmetic plus/minus, they were still uncertain.

"I don't think that on a large scale they realize that if you take away plus/minus, you're dumbing down the grading scale," Shipman said.

Several members of the senate felt that they were wasting time by discussing the grading system.

On a different issue, Randy Adkins reported that funds for a permanent director for the Service Learning Academy have been appropriated. A round of applause ensued as overwhelming thanks was given to current interim co-directors Nora Bacon and Paul Sather. The post of director will be permanently funded.

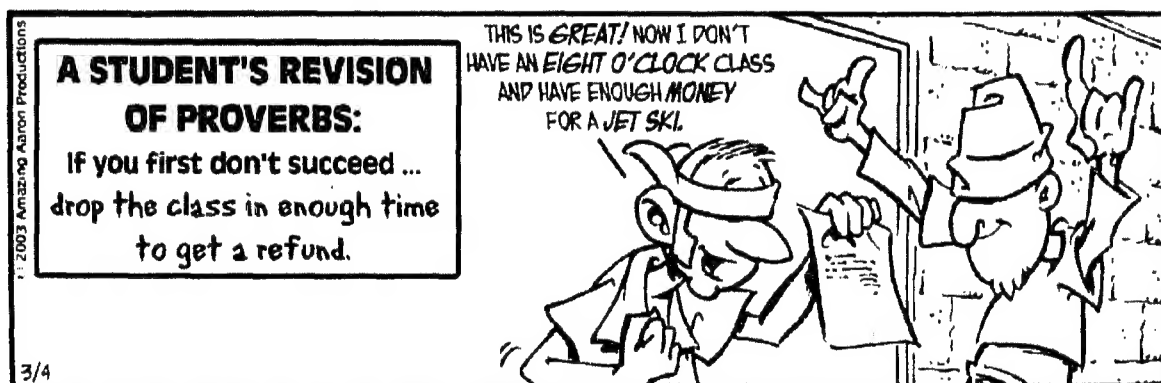
In other business, Chris Allen brought to the attention of those present that as a diabetic, it is very important but difficult for him to discern what he is eating in the food court.

"I would love to see in our food service all of the nutritional values posted," Allen said.

If we were to change,

## 2 Dudes

By Aaron Warner



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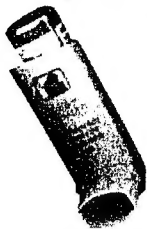
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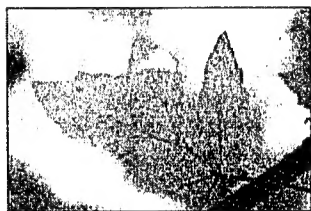
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The Creighton University Allergy Division is currently seeking allergic asthmatics for an investigational 22-week study testing an FDA-approved medication. Patients can only be taking albuterol for their asthma. You receive up to \$1,025 for your time and travel. For more information, please call 280-5975.



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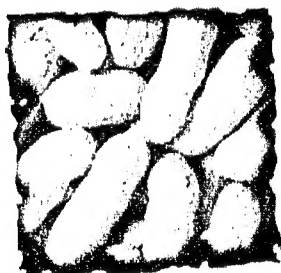
The Creighton University Division of Allergy & Immunology is conducting a research study using an investigational treatment for ragweed (fall) allergies. The study will last 2 months with 10 visits to the doctor's office. You will be compensated \$1000 for your time and travel.



If you would like further information, please call Kris at 280-5975 or email her at [kkenealy@creighton.edu](mailto:kkenealy@creighton.edu)

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years old for a 38-week research study to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication. You will be compensated for your time and expenses.

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## Do you have Dermatitis?

Creighton University Dermatology Division and Clinical Trials Office is currently looking for qualifying volunteers at least 18 years of age, to participate in a 1-month long investigational trial using a topical steroid to treat dermatitis. A stipend of up to \$150 will be offered for your time and effort. If you are interested in participating, please call Lori at 280-5968.

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## Spring break utilized as time to volunteer for the community

ALEX MAY  
SINKER STAFF WRITER

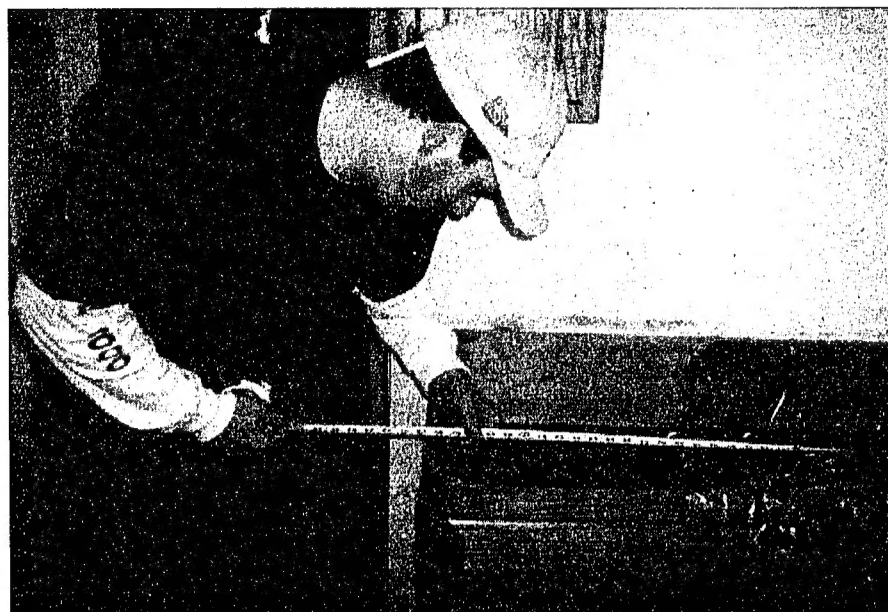
No more sleeping in or staying out all night. Time to crack open the books again and kick things into high gear for the remainder of the semester. Spring break may be over, but the memories will last a lifetime, especially for those who didn't go on an exotic vacation. This spring break, more than 200 volunteers, many of them UNO students, dedicated their time and energy to refurbishing two deserving houses in North Omaha.

The project, a collaboration among family

Systems Technology Program, like student Ryan Buckley, acted as project managers and oversaw the work being done. Buckley helped oversee things at the 17<sup>th</sup> St. house. This project was a requirement for graduation for some of these students, including Buckley. It provided hands-on experience. For others, it was just a chance to make a difference.

Volunteer Monica Meier saw the big changes she and others were making firsthand. On the final day she couldn't believe the strides that had been made in the previous 24 hours alone.

"Just since yesterday there has been



Alex May

Construction Systems Technology senior Ryan Buckley measures a countertop for refinishing while acting as a project manager. UNO Students and community members alike spent their spring break week refurbishing houses in the North Omaha area.

Housing Advisory Services, UNO and the Wells Fargo Foundation, ran from March 12 to March 19. The program, called Seven Days of Service, honors the seven days that college students have for spring break, utilizing that time to help students enrich the community in which they live.

When volunteers showed up at 4106 N. 17 St. on the first day, they were greeted by black marker on the walls and carpets saturated with melted wax. The second house at 4717 N. 40 St. had noticeable holes in the foundation and a basement full of junk. The two houses were in much need of repair, both inside and out.

The first day was spent cleaning out the houses, filling dumpsters with old furniture and ripping up carpet. As the week progressed, the houses became less recognizable as wallpaper was stripped and walls were primed. By the end of the week each house had been repainted, repaired and renewed.

Seniors in the UNO Construction

a huge improvement that I can see," she marveled while painting the trim on a kitchen window. The homes are owned by Omaha 100, a consortium of area lending institutions, and will be sold back to low-income families now that they are completed.

"It's a good sense of satisfaction, giving back to the community and helping a family," Meier said.

This was the third year for the project, and the volunteer effort keeps growing. With little more than 75 volunteers in 2003, there are expected to be more than the 200 that helped this year in the years to come.

While many students came home to regale friends with stories of spring break madness in a hot spot somewhere far away from Omaha, some were able to say they made a difference right here at home.

"One thing I'll remember is how hard-working and dedicated UNO students are to changing lives in the community," Buckley said.

From STUDENTS: Page 1

provided protestors with a diagram outlining the re-appointment, promotion and tenure procedures followed by the university.

Despite her inability to give comment on either instructor, Smith-Illowell said that she supported the students' right to voice their opinions on the issue.

"I have always said what students think makes a difference," she said.

Rogers agreed.

"I am delighted when students are concerned about their education."

Ultimately, the students at the protest are looking to keep the two instructors in the classroom.

Stednitz said, "I hope that they are rightly re-appointed."





# FEATURES

Sarah Legg | Features Editor

Page 5

features@gateway.unomaha.edu | March 22, 2005

## Hitting the red carpet with Oscar night: a recap of the fashion trends

What do you get when you mix glamorous with safe? Glamorous? No, that sounds too much like a mosh pit move. Safeorous? No, sounds like some kind of dinosaur. Oh, well. Look, what I'm trying to say here is that at this year's Oscars the stars didn't let us have any fun. They all looked amazing, but there was no Bjork running around as a swan like the 2001 Academy Awards or Lara Flynn Boyle as a ballerina like at the Golden Globes in 2003. Sadly, everyone looked perfect. Perfectly safe.

Even though faux pas were few and far between, there was still much to be said. This year, old Hollywood glamour made its way back to the red carpet. Strapless gowns were one of the most popular trends, with everyone from Beyonce to Renee Zellweger showing some shoulder.

What to accessorize the look with? Why big, beautiful diamond earrings, of course.

There was more than one "million dollar baby" rocking the red carpet this year. Speaking of which, Hilary Swank looked every inch the winner as she took home the Best Actress in a Leading Role award

wearing a fitted navy scoop-back dress by Guy Laroche. Also wearing blue were Best Actress nominee Kate Winslet in periwinkle Badgley Mischka and Salma Hayek in a dark blue glittery Prada gown.

Regina King of *Ray* chose to bare one shoulder instead of both, as did many other stars. However, unlike the others, King had a bit of real old Hollywood glamour with her. Stuart Weitzman custom designed a pair of shoes for her that included vintage diamonds from a pair of earrings the once belonged to Marilyn Monroe. Another vintage stunner was the embroidered Atelier Versace skirt on Halle Berry's gorgeous gown.

My personal favorites of the night included Natalie Portman's goddess of a dress and Gwyneth Paltrow's return to the red carpet in a nude Stella McCartney silk dress.

This year it was the men who really took

### Real Fashion



Alex May

it up a notch. From Spike Lee's fez, white suit and Jordans, to Robin Williams' magenta shirt. If there was any spice, it was thanks to these guys.

Counting Crows' Adam Duritz stepped out in layers, sporting a lime-green tie over a striped shirt, under a brocade vest and topped with a blue tuxedo jacket. Get all that?

Best Actor winner Jamie Foxx looked classic in a navy suit by Armani, and P. Diddy was ready to "bling" it on with his \$100,000 diamond bracelet and black velvet Sean John tuxedo.

So maybe there wasn't anything too awful this year, but that could just mean the stars are finally learning from prior mistakes. Everyone's still talking about that swan after all, but with the theme of understated glamour, this year was definitely one of the most elegant of the 77 years of Oscar fashion.

## Collegiate ultimate flies to UNO

JOSH WENDELL  
STAFF WRITER

If you have ever heard of ultimate Frisbee, chances are your opinions of it are probably dominated by thoughts of laid back, tie-dyed hippies and dog lovers, which is justified.

Ultimate Frisbee has always been an alternative sport enjoyed by people from every walk of life. But what many do not realize is that there is a large community of competitive ultimate players across the country and the world at large. In fact, so many play it at a high enough level that if New York secures the 2012 Summer Olympic Games, ultimate is a possibility to be an event.

What began as a humble activity to pass the time on a beautiful day, has evolved into one of the most exciting spectator sports to grace a playing field.

It is a combination of football, soccer and basketball using a Frisbee, team handball with a flying disc. The goal is to progress the disc up the field by passing the disc from player to player in an attempt to cross the goal line, like football. Play is continuous until a goal is scored, like soccer. Finally, if you control the disc, you are not allowed to run, only to pivot on one foot in an attempt to throw to your teammate, like basketball. There are more rules to the game, but one glaring difference as compared to other team sports is no referees. The game is self-officiated and governed by the honesty and good sportsmanship of the player, or "spirit of the game."

Since the 1960s, ultimate has been played as an intercollegiate sport. The first game, Princeton vs. Rutgers, was actually played on the same field that the first intercollegiate football game was played on more than 100 years ago. The

popularity of the sport has spawned to nearly 500 men's and women's college teams nationwide—most recently, here at UNO.

Starting in November, UNO students have been working out and learning the ropes in preparation for the 2005 spring college season. The UNO Ultimate Team has organized a men's and a women's squad and both are eager to take the field in competition. Team membership is open to all UNO students who are looking for a good time. Ultimate is a Campus Recreation-sponsored club, which makes it eligible for school funding. The remaining expenses are picked up by team members, but future fundraising will lessen that load quite a bit.

Both the men and women's teams will travel to Lawrence, Kan. on April 2 and 3 to take part in the University of Kansas' annual Fools Fest. This tournament will pit the teams against many of the local college and club teams. Later in April, the teams will compete in the West Plains sectionals, which both will take place in Iowa. The men will travel to Decorah and women will be in Iowa City. Currently, there are approximately 25 UNO students who practice together on a weekly basis.

If you have never watched a game of competitive ultimate you're missing out. For every point you will find a player making a spectacular catch or someone diving to knock a disc down. It is fast pace and free flowing form make ultimate easy to watch and get into.

Keep your eyes peeled and your ears attentive for flyers promoting the teams. The UNO squads are hoping to bring other colleges here to play this month in preparation for sectionals in April. By next year, the teams will be traveling across the country to compete against the rest of the collegiate field.

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT OPEN POSITIONS

### Paid Positions

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Director, Womens Resource Center



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The deadline for applications is Friday, April 8 at Noon.

Job Descriptions are available in the Student Government Office located on the first floor of the Milo Bail Student Center.

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Graduate College (1-seat)



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## You're finally engaged, now what? Tips before you walk down the aisle

ALEXIS ELLIS  
STAFF WRITER  
PART 2

For those of you who missed last week's article, I will go over a few points.

The first one I mentioned was to log onto [www.theknot.com](http://www.theknot.com). The second was when you are looking at reception halls, remember to ask if they allow outside caterers and keep in mind that Friday weddings are cheaper. The third thing to know is if you don't specifically belong to a church, find out what the requirements are for having a wedding there. For example, ask if they require either you or your fiancé to be a member and ask if they require marriage classes.

Now that some of the basics are covered, I am going to cover the more important details, like the dress. One of the most important things to keep in mind is that even though your wedding might not be for 15 months, now is the time to start looking. In many cases, it could take six to eight months to order your dress.

My next piece of advice is don't ask for too many opinions. The more people you take to go dress shopping, the harder it is to decide. Everyone has their own taste and they tend to pick out dresses that they think will look good on them. If you want friends and family to go dress shopping, I would take no more than two people at a time.

In the long run, your opinion is the one that matters most. Others' opinions are nice, but you need to go with what you like the most. I think the best piece of advice I have received is that if you can look in the mirror and say wow, then you know you have found the dress.

As I have yet to find the perfect dress, I seem to go for the same designers. One thing that surprised me was that dresses that didn't look good on the rack, looked good on. I would recommend trying on dresses that maybe you wouldn't normally try on, it might surprise you. Some of the dresses that I didn't like that much on the rack, turned out to be some of my favorites.

After you find the dress of your dreams, write down the style number or name and check out some of these Web

sites for cheaper deals for the same dress: [www.weddingexpressions.com](http://www.weddingexpressions.com), [www.bridesave.com](http://www.bridesave.com), [www.bridalonlinestore.com](http://www.bridalonlinestore.com). I have known many brides to get their dresses through one of these sites or one like it. The dresses are the same ones you see in the store, but cheaper. Many of these sites offer brand name dresses such as Alfred Angelo, Mori Lee, Maggie Sottero and Jessica McClintock.

Now since you're reading this, I am assuming that your budget might be kind of tight, unless your parents are Donald Trump or Oprah. As I began looking at invitations I couldn't help but notice the price for 200 invitations. We're talking an easy \$500, if not more, all for some paper that people are probably going to throw away. Personally, I would rather spend the extra money somewhere else, like the dress.

For my invitations I decided to look at some local craft stores such as Michaels and Hobby Lobby. They have an array of invitations that come with everything that you need, such as envelopes, the invites and RSVP cards. I could get everything I need for a total of \$80 for all my invitations. Granted I still have to print them, but ink cartridges are only around \$25. So for 200 invitations it will cost me \$105, that's a lot cheaper than \$500.

As for me, that's all the planning I have done. Keep reading for further tips as I complete my planning.

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Bridal Traditions  
2933 S 108th St  
(402) 397-2525

The Bridal Gallery  
12100 W Center Rd  
(402) 391-0341

## Hooking up singles, redneck style

BECKY BOYER  
STAFF WRITER

You like country music a lot and feel that monster truck races are a cultural event but you can't find anyone to date that feels the same way you do. Regular dating services just aren't your cup of tea. Well your problems are over now that the service [redneckandsingle.com](http://redneckandsingle.com) has widened the dating pool.

This site was created by Kevin McIntosh, a freelance copywriter who lives in Winston-Salem, N.C. His definition of a redneck is that it's more about an attitude, a rebellious attitude towards all things, "pretentiously sophisticated."

"Well, I've tried the online dating thing with the big dating sites and got tired of women sayin' stuff like, 'if you're into NASCAR or country music, don't bother contacting me,'" he said of his inspiration for the Web site. "I figure anything that high-maintenance that doesn't come with a stick shift and a big block engine isn't worth my time. So I decided to start my own dating site for folks like me who enjoy NASCAR and country music and such."

The Web site proclaims, "It's like an online honky-tonk, but without the drinkin', cussin' and fightin'," now that sounds like a great time, doesn't it?

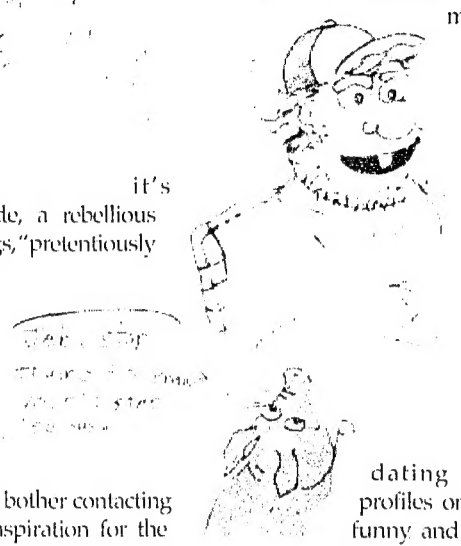
Many may not think of Nebraska as being a redneck state. There are already three people from Nebraska registered on the site. They include a 35-year-old man from Omaha, a 29-year-old woman from Omaha, and a 21-year-old woman from Wayne.

There are even different membership levels that people can join. There is the basic redneck, which lets you upload pictures and make a profile free. Then there is the premium redneck for \$14.95 a month, which will let you access e-mail, a chat room and even an instant redneck messenger.

Country folks are different, says McIntosh and those who will benefit the most are those who are tired of the big dating sites. The profiles on the site are really funny and just looking at the site for awhile could give you a new perspective.

Finally McIntosh said that, "Yeah. Ya'll sign up now and upgrade to premium redneck for just \$14.95 a month. And please hurry. I've got a truck payment to make."

McIntosh did indeed create a very interesting site. So if you're a redneck woman seeking a redneck man or vice versa y'all should check it out.



## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- American buffalo
  - Ken or Lena
  - Castro's island
  - Hersey's bell town
  - Three squared
  - Numbered work
  - Chooftun
  - Make one's mouth water
  - World of films
  - "Who's the Boss?" star
  - Temporary expedient
  - Gat her together
  - Tartan topper
  - Male effort
  - Crooner Terme
  - Hatfield's foe
  - Actress Angelina
  - Lennon's Yoko
  - Lotion additive
  - Erin of Happy Days
  - Redneck lute
  - Intality
  - Highway components
  - Nappy leather
  - Link's peg
  - Water pitcher
  - Brooch
  - Burns slightly
  - Davenport of tennis
  - Leers at
  - Clever comeback
  - Display again
  - Coronet
  - Highland hillside
  - "Swan Lake" skirt
  - Go back to committee
  - E-mail button
  - Treac
  - Fire residue

- DOWN**
- Aromatic salves
  - Durco
  - Military salute
  - Extending one's height
  - Snial bouquet
  - In the better position
  - Actor Neeson
  - Quaint quarters
  - Fina profit
  - Soft drinks
  - Cheech and Chong movie
  - Astronaut Aldrin
  - Or the Aegean
  - Pithy saying
  - TVA creation
  - Book of maps
  - Primary
  - More achy
  - Geraint's loyal lady
  - Come in last
  - Crow's-nest support
  - Hirt
  - Corfess
  - Part of DJIA
  - Bryn College
  - This and that
  - Chow chow controller
  - "From Here to Eternity" star

### Solutions

S	E	I	S	E	A	I	S	N	E	S
L	I	S	E	E	I	I	I	E	A	B
A	B	V	I	L	I	I	I	X	C	B
E	E	L	B	V	E	E	S	E	I	O
A	A	S	A	I	I	S	B	A	H	O
N	I	J	U	E	W	E	E	E	I	
E	O	E	O	S	S	E	V	E	I	S
S	I	X	S	N	V	O	W	E	O	T
O	N	O	E	I	O	I	A	O	O	W
T	E	W	O	V	I	S	W	V	L	
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V	Z	N	V	C	W	O	D	E	I	A
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S	O	D	O	E	N	I	N	O	N	V
A	B	A	O	N	I	I	O	N	O	S

- Domino dot
- Jinxed
- Slacken
- Secret store
- Eagle's abode
- Abbey Theatre founder
- Spheres
- Richard of "Pretty Woman"
- Ritual practice
- "My Party"
- Except

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# SPORTS

Nathan Leete | Sports Editor

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sports@gateway.unomaha.edu | March 22, 2005

## Jumping phenoms team up for two titles as UNO finishes fifth at indoor track nationals

THOMAS LAMAY AND NATHAN LEETE  
STAFF WRITER SPORTS EDITOR

NCAA officials and announcers have probably been scratching their heads during the indoor track and field season when they have tried to pronounce the names clearly of UNO's top long jumpers. Anastasia Kyvelidou and Foluso Makinde have been confusing people all the way to the NCAA Division II National Championships, where the two clearly made a name for themselves.

Overall, the UNO track and field team sent seven athletes to the national meet, which took place March 11-12 in Boston. The team came home with a fifth-place finish and two championships. Makinde won the long jump event, and Kyvelidou won the triple jump title along with a second place finish in the long jump.

"It's the highest we've ever finished," Head Coach Tim Hendricks said. "We were happy with it but looking to be in the top-four because they get the national trophies. It's the first time a team has scored that many points and not been on the awards podium."

Hendricks said this was also the first year for two events, the distance medley and the 200-meter dash, which propelled St. Augustine to the team title.

But it was the jumpers that gave UNO a chance.

Last season, Makinde placed ninth

at indoor nationals in Boston. Her top performance this year, a leap of 19 feet-10 inches, was set at the North Central Conference Championships.

"Last year was my first nationals, ever," said Makinde. "My coaches are really encouraging, which helps a lot too."

The UNO coaching staff has been pleased all season with their international recruits. Kyvelidou hails from Edessa, Greece, a town in midwestern Greek Macedonia. Makinde is from Ipetumodu, Nigeria, a town in the western part of the African country.

Assistant Coach Steven Gordon can still remember the day when Makinde joined the track team.

"We really lucked out with Foluso. She moved here to study, and she happened to wander into a track meeting her freshman year," Gordon said. "She is extremely diligent and hard working. All we did was polish that up."

Competing in America has been rewarding to both Kyvelidou and Makinde. Kyvelidou, who was a member of Greece's Jr. National Team, learned the difference between International and NCAA rules the hard way, when she was disqualified from a race earlier this season. Both Kyvelidou and Makinde noticed differences between their own countries' and American athletics.

"The major difference between Greece and the other European universities is that you don't have such advanced collegiate

athletics, in all events," said Kyvelidou. "It's a good opportunity here for people and children to exercise and do what they love, and be good at it from a very young age. It's a tradition in the family."

The pair crossed paths when Anastasia transferred to UNO in the fall of 2004. In Kyvelidou's second meet as a Maverick, she broke the school record in the long jump, a mark that stood atop the NCAA II rankings all season. Makinde however made a steady rise through the rankings, climbing within one inch of Kyvelidou's mark.

As the pressure built leading into the national meet, Kyvelidou and Makinde were confident before they left for Boston. Both athletes said that their training and coaching from Hendricks, Gordon and Petros Kyprianou have been a vital part of their success.

"(Petros) takes us to Lincoln twice a week to train indoors. He's sacrificing a lot with his life, which is good for him and for us," Kyvelidou said.

Both Anastasia and Foluso also give credit to their American-born teammate, Debbie Ackerly.

"Debbie is good, some day she is going to jump 20 feet, and you don't know where that came from," said Makinde. "She works really hard. I respect her for what she does."

Ackerly showcased herself well at nationals by placing a surprising second in

the triple jump and 13<sup>th</sup> in the long jump.

"We didn't expect second in the triple jump," Hendricks said. "Debbie actually was in the lead going into the final jump where Anastasia passed her. Like anything else, you're going to have surprises and disappointments."

After the national meet, both Makinde and Kyvelidou are looking forward to having a strong finish in the outdoor season. Hendricks and his staff feel the entire squad will be better suited for a NCC outdoor team crown, after narrowly missing at the indoor meet.

"We are going into it with the same frame of mind, to win it," Hendricks said. "It's going to be here, and there's some things we've got in our favor. There are some people we are going to have outdoors that we didn't have indoors that will be scoring for us, and Anastasia can also put the javelin up pretty good."

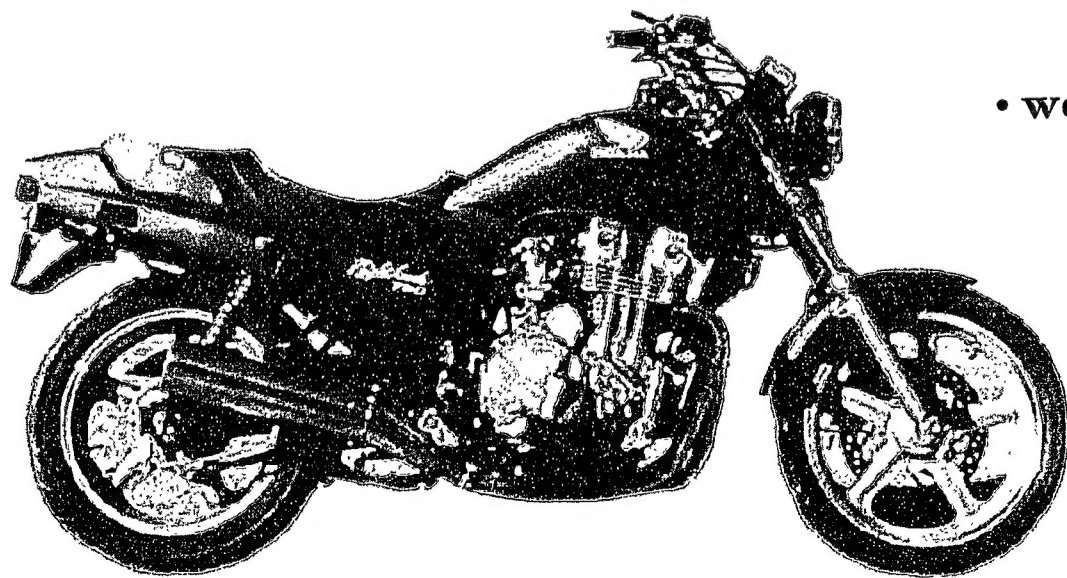
After graduation, a thought of the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China is in the back Kyvelidou and Makinde's minds. Both Kyvelidou and Makinde think that they are a long shot to make it, but haven't ruled anything out.

"I'll be 29, when you are peaking in athletics, so you never know where life can take you," Kyvelidou said.

"People have been telling me 'I really hope to see you on TV someday', but I don't know. If it happens, I'll go for it," Makinde said.

See TRACK: Page 8

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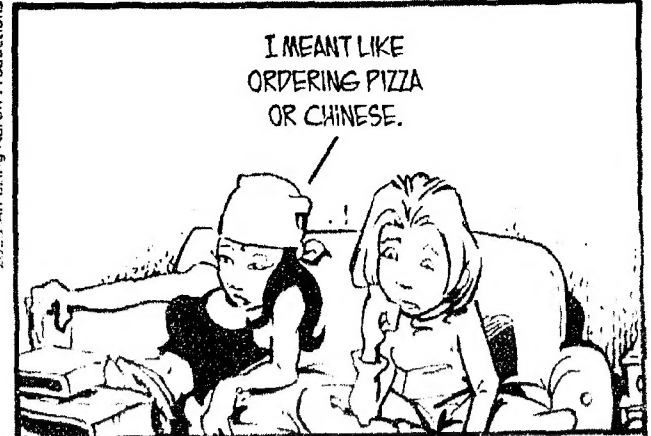
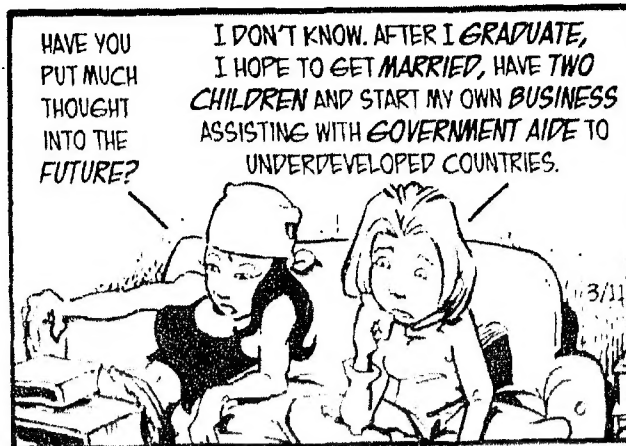
For now, however, it is time to focus on the upcoming outdoor track season. Hendricks said the team has a better chance at success in the upcoming months.

"We'll be a little better outdoors, conference wise," Hendricks said. "We have some people who didn't have indoor eligibility but have outdoor eligibility. Anastasia could win conference in the javelin throw. We'll be in the hunt with South Dakota again in the conference. At the national level we're just as good outdoors as indoors."

And with Makinde and Kyvelidou in its corner, the Maverick track and field team may just leap its way onto the podium in the outdoors.

## A College Girl Named Joe

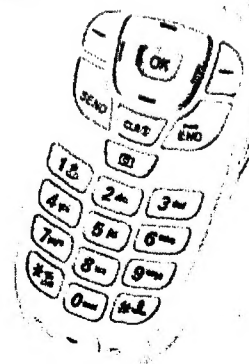
By Aaron Warner



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# Michigan State special teams send Mavericks packing in Super Six

NATHAN LEETE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Michigan State dominated UNO in the opening round of the Central Collegiate Hockey Association's Super Six at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena. Four of the Spartans' five goals Friday came off of UNO penalties and the fifth was with an empty net.

"Hats off to Michigan State," UNO Head Coach Mike Kemp said. "They took control of the game early on. They took advantage of every opportunity that we gave them. Obviously they were the better team tonight."

The Spartans jumped to an early lead in the first period. Three minutes and twelve seconds into the game Micah Sanford got two minutes for hooking, and 16 seconds later Colton Fretter snuck a shot past UNO goalie Chris Holt to give MSU the early lead. They never looked back.

Michigan State went two-for-two on power plays in the first period, scoring its second goal at 10:31. Rob Chappell was called for holding and then a minute later, MSU's Jim McKenzie scored on a rebound shot.

"Those first two power play goals kind of took the sting out of us," Kemp said.

UNO's inability to keep men on the ice continued to haunt them in the second period. Tommy Goebel scored on a four-on-four as he stretched the Spartan's lead to three off assists by Jim Slater and Corey Potter. Daniel Vukovic extended the lead even further after a delayed penalty on the Mavs to make it 4-0 MSU.

The Spartans had a five-on-three advantage 13:04 into the second frame when UNO's Bobby Hendersen got a 10-minute misconduct for roughing after the whistle. UNO's defense held out and was able to



Michelle Bishop  
Scott Parse tries to gain control of the puck while being defended by a trio of Michigan State players during Thursday's CCHA Super Six game in Detroit at the Joe Louis Arena.



Michelle Bishop  
Kaleb Betts gets held back by Michigan State's Adam Nightingale during Thursday's CCHA Super Six game.

keep MSU scoreless the rest of the period.

The third period was back and forth with neither team being able to score until the Spartans put the salt in the wound with an empty net goal with 1:18 left in the game for the 5-0 shutout.

Adding to the difficulties the penalties caused, there were several injuries that hurt the team as well.

"We didn't have (David) Phillips coming into the game, then we lost (Brian) Marshall in the first period and (Brandon) Scero in the second," Kemp said. "That's an entire line that could have helped us win the game."

Kemp did not want to use UNO's inexperience in this type of situation as an excuse.

"Their experienced players stepped up and really did a good job," Kemp said. "They're familiar with this facility and

familiar with this rink, it's a home game for them."

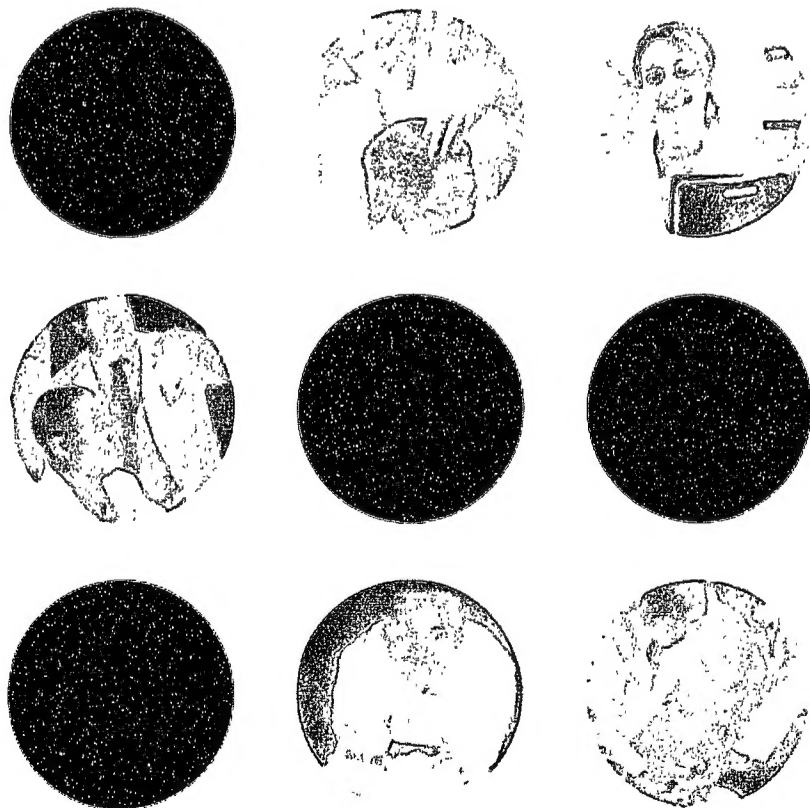
"I don't think (inexperience) was the problem," UNO's Bill Thomas said. "It wasn't any different than playing in Omaha."

Despite the distance from home, UNO carried a very large fan base to Detroit.

"We're very fortunate obviously. We have hard-core, loyal fans in Omaha, who are phenomenal," Kemp said. "They're willing to do whatever it takes to support the team."

Kemp hopes to build on the experience and improvements made this season and translate them into a better team next year.

"More experience in important, critical games like this will go a long way for us next year," Kemp said.

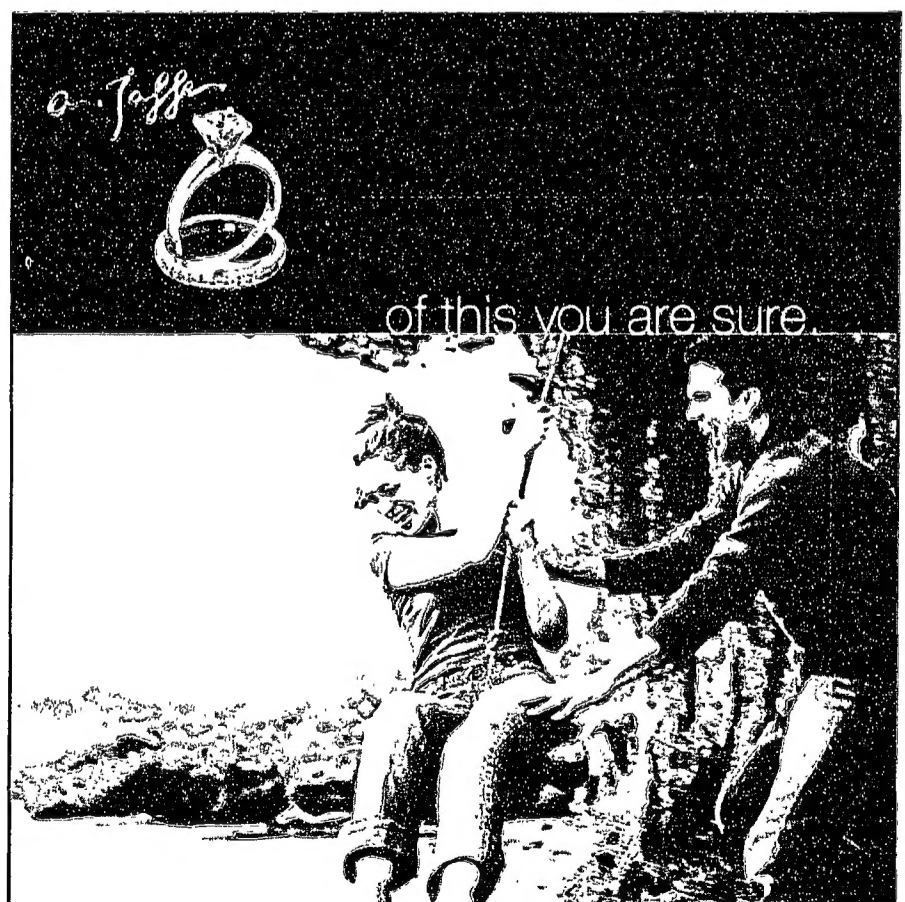


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## Booted from regionals, Mavericks look to build up in the off-season

CHRISTEN HARRINGTON  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

It has been nearly two weeks since the UNO men suffered back-to-back losses against Minnesota State-Mankato and Winona State after being crowned regular season champions of the North Central Conference. Head Coach Kevin McKenna remains optimistic as his Mavericks head into the off season. The Mavericks were in an emotional state when they met up in McKenna's hotel room after their loss to Winona State in Denver to discuss the success and failure that the team had throughout the season.

"Our seniors all had good things to say about their experience at the university and playing on this basketball team," McKenna said. "It was a really good feeling that I had as a coach, bonding with my players."

The Mavericks finished 23-6 on the season, an improvement from going 22-8 the previous year. UNO went 11-3 at the Sapp Fieldhouse, and became a better road team going 6-2. They were also 6-1 at neutral sites.

The Mavericks had three players selected to the all-NCC team, including junior guard Calvin Kapels, junior forward Ryan Curtis and senior guard Abdul Mills. McKenna was also named the NCC Coach of the Year for the second consecutive year after leading the Mavericks to the regular-season championship with a 9-3 record.

"It's more of a team accomplishment. I don't take a whole lot of credit, my assistants contributed to a lot of that," McKenna said. "I think being named the NCC Coach of the Year is traditionally rewarded to whomever wins the conference. As far as our three players being chosen to the all-NCC team, those three guys deserve it. We were the only

team besides Mankato to have three players selected, and all three were a big part of our team's success."

When it comes down to the overall statistics on the season, the Mavericks were ranked high and low in several categories in the NCC. As far as statistics, UNO was the best team in the NCC in scoring defense, rebounding, and were ranked second in blocks per game, averaging four.

In shooting categories, the Mavericks were one of the worst teams in the NCC. UNO ranked last in the NCC in free throw percentage, shooting just 62 percent. The Mavericks ranked sixth in field goal percentage, shooting just 45 percent and were ranked last in three-point field goal percentage, shooting just 34 percent.

Heading into the off season, McKenna has several holes to fill on his team. The Mavericks lose four seniors, including Andre Tarpley, Abdul Mills, Randy Bland and Levy Jones. Trying to fill the void of leadership displayed from Tarpley and Jones this season will be an interesting challenge heading into the 2005-06 season.

"Our seniors Calvin, Ryan and Quantel will have to step up and provide the leadership that Levy and Andre did for this team last season," McKenna said.

McKenna now focuses on the off season, working on the physical makeup on his team and the execution on offense. McKenna will have his players do a lot of individual workouts that include shooting the ball from the perimeter and free throws.

When asked about the overall contributions of the team's success this year McKenna emphasized that his team accomplished a lot by winning two straight regular season conference championships, but still believes there is room for improvement.

## UNO swimmers take ninth at NCAA Division II championships

NATHAN LEETE  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Mavericks swimming and diving team finished with it's sixth straight top-ten finish at the Division II Swimming and Diving Championships in Winter Park, Fla. The team reached as high as seventh place during the four day meet, finishing ninth, and saw four team records go down.

"It's a goal of ours to be viewed as a top-10 team year in and year out," Head Coach Todd Samland said. "We did expect (a top-10 finish), and we have some very talented girls on our team. We're still in a growing process though. I think we make too big of a deal of it being nationals. We need to relax a little bit and that's when we do our best."

The Mavs showed a strong presence in the tournament from day one. Top-15 finishes from Sarah Clark and the 200-yard medley relay team of Katie Liebman, Molly Connolly, Martina Zamecnik, and Clark, as well as an eleventh place finish from Junior Ashley Renshaw in the 200-yard individual medley led UNO to ninth place after the first day of competition.

Day two saw the Mavs jump to seventh place with five top-10 finishes. The 200-yard freestyle relay team recorded a sixth place finish, Zamecnik finished seventh in the 100-yard butterfly, the 400-yard medley relay team came in eighth and Courtney Petersen and Renshaw came in ninth and tenth respectively in the 400-yard individual medley.

Jamie Grogan was the highlight of the third day of competition with a third place finish in the one-meter diving event. Jessica Hessell broke a team record with

her eighth place finish in the 200-yard butterfly, and Connolly finished ninth in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Sheena Kafka's second place finish in the three-meter diving event on the final day of competition was the strongest finish on the team.

"Our divers did great," Samland said. "I'm really happy with their performances."

Another strong performance came from the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Veronica Barna, Zamecnik, Clark and Wernhoff with a tenth place finish. Top-15 finishes from Connolly in the 100-yard freestyle, and Renshaw in the 200-yard breaststroke rounded out the Mavs performances on the last day.

"All of our swimmers had at least one really great race, and that's what we're looking for at nationals," Samland said.

The sixth consecutive top-10 finish for the Mavs is already starting to help for next season.

"We have girls from Iowa, Montana, Arizona and Texas visiting in the next week," Samland said. "There's also a lot of good girls in Nebraska who will hopefully want to be a part of our team."

Looking into next season coach Samland hopes the top-10 finish will motivate the team to work even harder and finish higher next season.

"I leave it to the team to push themselves in the off season," Samland said. "North Dakota has some really good recruits, so the conference will be tough, but our big goal is to move higher up on the food chain at a national level."

From SIGMAN: Page 1

each match, making it to the semifinals. Naig stamped his passport to the finals with a 12-1 major decision right after Allibone did on the same mat.

"I just tried to stay calm throughout match," Naig said. "I wanted to stay low, keep my hands down."

Les Sigman dominated his bracket again, winning his first two matches by pin. He beat Nebraska-Kearney's Tervel Dlagnev by a major decision. Dlagnev wrestled to not get pinned, refusing to attack. Sigman was awarded one stalling point, but it was clear early in the first period that Dlagnev was not going to wrestle. Sigman had to settle for the major, when he deserved a chance for the pin.

Sigman went on to win his third-consecutive national title by beating Minnesota State-Moorhead's Chris Tuscherer by 14 points. Sigman scored five takedowns in the final period.

"I dedicated my season to Jesse Greise," Sigman said. "We were real close friends, and I just hope he's proud of me."

"And then, I kind of rededicated it to Mitch Waite. He worked his butt off and then he got hurt. He's going to come back next year and do well."

Possibly the most important match

of the tournament was a 141-pound semifinal between Eli Dominguez of UNO and Andre VanderVelde of Augustana. It was the only head-to-head match of the tournament between the two schools. Each semifinal was worth 12 advancement points, so a win would be crucial in a team race that was separated by no more than four and a half points after each of the first three sessions.

Dominguez dominated the match, winning 10-5. He rejoiced with a passionate yell and gesture of recognition to the home crowd. His win set up the Allibone and Naig wins in the following half hour. A loss in that match would have meant a 24-point swing, making it nearly impossible for UNO to win.

"I've wrestled probably a million times in my career," Dominguez said. "At (regionals), we had a tight match, and I just wanted to blow past him. It felt really good beating him in front of his crowd on their side of the arena. That was the best part."

The Mavericks fell in the finals, but he capped his career as a two-time All-American with a third and second-place finish on his resume.

"Going out best team in the nation, doing it two times in a row. Its just

fantastic."

Dustin Tovar ended his career with those accomplishments as well. Last year, he took second at 125, but he was upset in his quarterfinal. He battled back to capture third. On the way, he beat UNK's Bryce Abbey, a rival since high school.

"We've wrestled about three times a year the last few years," Tovar said. "It's been a huge rivalry since high school. It's been nice. Hopefully we can shake hands and go out separate ways."

Sophomore Steve Conlin took seventh at 174 pounds, giving UNO five wins in its six medal matches.

Augustana had three wins in its six opportunities. The Vikings took titles at 125 pounds with Aaron Graumann and 184 with a second championship from Tom Meester. Meester won outstanding wrestler.

"I don't know what else you have to do to win that," Denney said referring to the fact that Sigman has yet to win the award. "Three-time national champion. Better than 50 wins this year. Probably scored more points than anyone else in the tournament. He's been a tremendous leader for us."

Tim Boldt gave up in the final five seconds of his 197-pound final, clinching the title for UNO before Sigman stepped on the mat.

"I was running all over the place



Chris Machian  
Colorado Mines' Peter Jenson (top) wrestles with Zack Schafer of Mercyhurst.

jumping, screaming," Tovar said. "My voice is almost gone."

Augustana Head Coach Jason Reitmeier won Coach of the Year, but that didn't stop the Maverick celebration.

"This team was a bunch of warriors," Denney said of his bunch. "They were warriors the whole way. They just kept responding, bouncing back. Losing the dual to Augustana, the regional. Then coming through like this."

Only Tovar and Dominguez graduate, leaving UNO as the early favorite for a third title. But that was the farthest thing from Denney's mind.

"We're going to enjoy this one."

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## First session of "Halo-A-Go-Go" impressive

Back to life and back to reality as spring break ends and the mad dash before the end of the semester comes about. Amidst all the studying, or lack thereof, there are plenty of extra-curricular activities to shake loose from the stress.

And usually, while a guy is studying at home, there are all sorts of distractions pulling him away from the books. Lately it seems the action-packed game, *Halo 2*, seems to be doing the trick. Spending hours straight playing this game can make someone feel a bit on the Nerds-R-Us side. But to remedy this, all you have to do is attend the Halo video game tournament this Wednesday at hipster lounge 1507 (1507 Farnam St.).

The event, dubbed "Halo-A-Go-Go,"

### On The Beat



Brent Crampton

is conducted by Ultramusique.com and Something Wicked Productions. The preliminary rounds took place last week, and I must say, the event was quite impressive. On Red Bull tables, go-go-dancers performed, dressed in skimpy clothes outfitted by a local boutique. Club lights were affixed to the

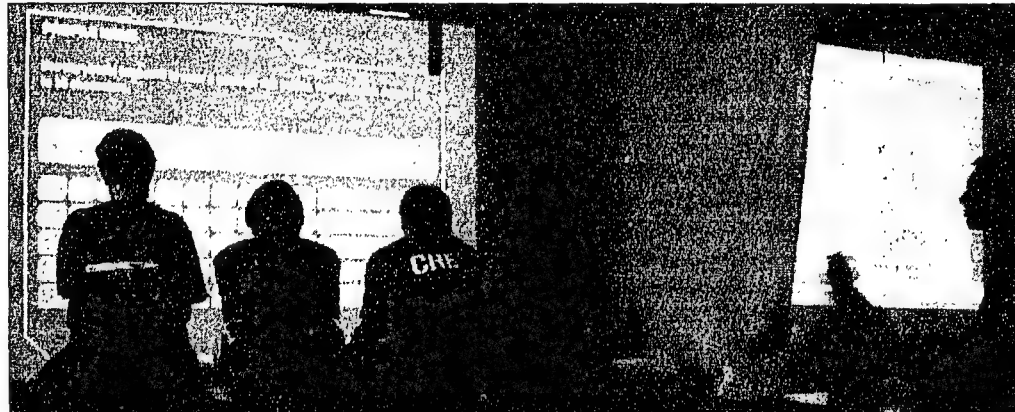
ceiling which all added to the high energy electronic music DJ Myth was dishing out in the Red Bull DJ booth. And let's not forget the multiple video screens on the white walls of 1507 where tournament or just casual gaming with Halo could take place. There were even

com for photos of the night.

In other nightlife news, Alex Hall is coming back to Omaha this Saturday. Having made an appearance more than a year ago with his former production partner under the guise of Marscruiser,

his mixes and tracks getting airplay overseas on such radio stations as KISS FM and Radio 1 in London, Hall has been busy planning a West and East coast tour.

"Now that it's just me out on the road, my sets are much more personal," Hall



Josh Bashara

Preparing for battle: Halo 2 gaming "clans" prepare for tournament matches played on dual projected screens.



Ref Jared Cvetas watches over a match while go-go dancers add eye candy.

referees dressed in the classic black and white stripes to make sure none of those tricky gamers pulled out illegal moves during the game.

With the finals and the singles tournament taking place tomorrow, this Tokyo-style club night is sure be worth your time. Check out [www.omahanightlife.com](http://www.omahanightlife.com) or [www.ultramusique.com](http://www.ultramusique.com).

Hall is now on a solo career. And Bar 415 will be hosting his talents again (415 S. 13th St.).

At his last appearance at 415, Hall said, "The bar was packed, girls dancing on the bar, the local news showed up and we had the crowd screaming."

So, while he is looking forward to the return, you can look forward to his signature style of *Star Trek* house and break beats.

Hailing from Madison, Wis., Hall is also a producer who has had his tracks played by DJs such as John Digweed, Deepsky, D:Fuse and Chris Fortier. With

said, "I really get into interacting with the crowd."

Opening the night for him is 415 resident Superstar DJ Lee. He'll be mixing his own produced techno tracks to set off the night.

And if you are looking for other mid-week treats, the infamous Max (1417 Jackson St.) is stepping up the music. With DJ Misha playing every Wednesday and Thursday night, you can expect a mix of the usual Max music format mixed in with underground progressive house and trance.

## Tekken 5: like Tekken 4, but with a higher digit and cooler features

REVIEW BY ANDREW CIOCHETTO

STAFF WRITER

Ask yourself, when was the last time you've ever been to an arcade?

Throughout the last decade, the average gamer has been spending an increasing amount of time with his console systems or in front of his computer playing online. But Namco has decided to change all that with the release of *Tekken 5*. The game takes off where the last one ended. The protagonist of the series, Jin Kazama, has found himself in a three-way battle between his father, Kazuya (The hero of the earlier games) and his grandfather, Heiachi Mishima (the evil bad guy of the series). After turning into a devil, Jin escaped while an army of giant Schwarzenegger-looking robots named Jack began to spank the Kazuya and Mishima girls on a Sunday morning.

But who really cares about a story line in a fighting game? The only thing you need to know is that Tekken means lots and lots of butt kicking. Bragging rights are heading your way.

The controls are easy to get used to. If you're a fan of the Tekken series then you should have no problem adapting to the buttons. However, if you like to mash

buttons, the special moves are easy to learn, making little kids and girlfriends very happy.

The graphics in the game are top-notch. The environments within the game are nostalgic. The characters are more lifelike



New characters galore: Namco re-invents the Tekken wheel.

in facial expression and movements. You can really tell the quality from the heavy influence on bright colors and nature within every environment. Plus if you slam your opponent into the wall or against the ground the environment takes damage.

The best improvements to the Tekken series are actually not in the game, though. The arcade unit now has a flat screen high definition monitor and powerful speakers making sure you never have to deal with bad picture or audio quality ever again. The arcade unit also has a card reader, a device that Namco borrowed from Sega's hit series,

*Virtual Fighter*. Pay \$5 at the arcade cabinet and you are given a card that will store your progress and; plus it gives you the ability to earn credits and points towards customizing your character and the game.

Within the arcade, you will be able to play a survivor mode, a time-attack mode and unlock special characters and secrets. In addition, Namco has assured buyers the console version will be an exact port (clone) of the original arcade game. That means that what you play in the arcade will be the exact same quality in your own home. Why spend \$50 at home when you can spend \$7.50 at an

arcade?

There is a downside to the card. You have to be in the arcade to use it. But do you really want people seeing what you're like while playing a fighting game? Personally, I don't think anyone needs to see a guy in an oversized anime shirt yelling at a small child saying something like, "Who's the man now dog? What now, noob?" Outbursts like that are the true reason why we have video games at home rather than in public.

*Tekken 5* hit the PS2 on March 15, and you can check it out now at an arcade near you.

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## Hip-Hop Notes

COMMENTARY BY JULIAN IVEY  
SLASH WRITER

I think we may want to change the name of this article from "Hip Hop Notes" to the "50 Cent Files." This guy 50 is stirring up problems any and everywhere. We'll talk about him later, so we can hit some other artists.

I'm really feelin' that **Beanie Sigel** track, "Feel it in the Air." I know a lot of you think it's garbage but I think he came correct with this one. He's supposed to have some hot tracks on his new album, *The B-Coming*, due out April 12. You can probably find a lot of them early on the Internet if you look in the right places.

You know who else is underrated? **Cassidy**. People don't seem to realize his skills. He spit hot fire, man.

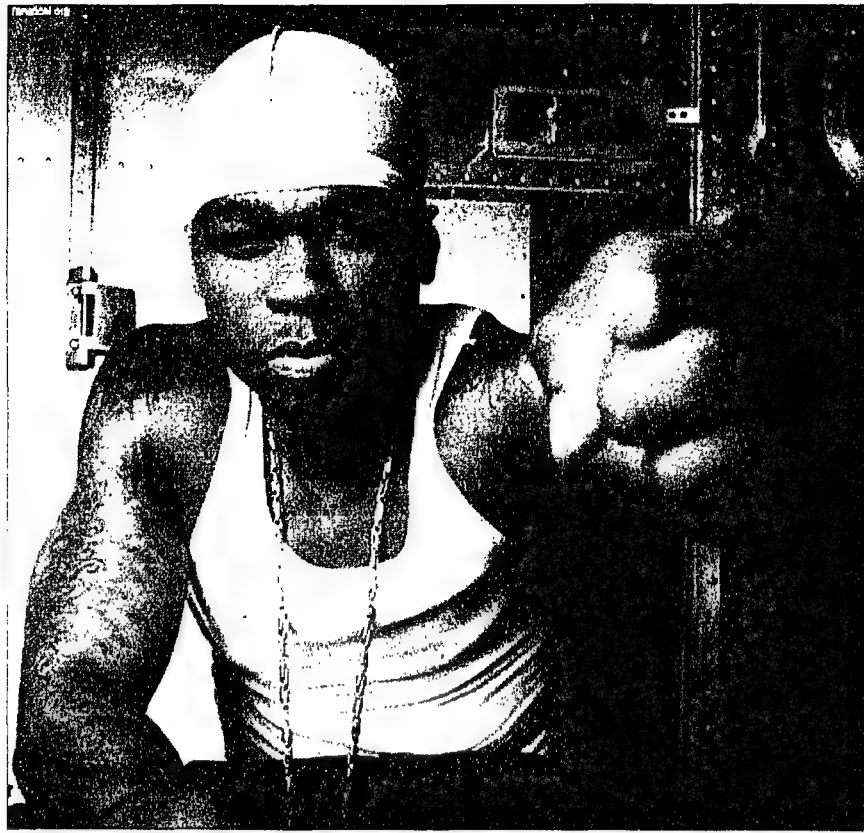
If you haven't heard his underground jam, "Hustler," you should soon. It's been popping up on radio stations for the past couple of months. I like the verse when Cassidy turns the tables on Jay-Z and tells him "You made it a hot verse/I made it a hot song."

The song is about a year old and produced by Swizz Beats just like TI's "Bring em Out." Cassidy's track is about six months older than TI's.

There is a good chance **Lil' Kim** is going to go to jail for a long time. She's on trial for perjury. Kim was charged with lying to a grand jury regarding a shooting in February of 2001 between her crew and associates of **Capone-N-Noreaga**. The people she allegedly lied for are testifying against her.

That shooting ironically happened in front of Hot 97 radio station, the same place that 50 Cent and the **Game**'s beef took physical form a couple weeks ago. Seems the rift has been growing since day the beginning of this relationship.

More recently, 50 was interviewed by *Vibe* about his new album and when asked



Aftermath Records

Now where did I put that bullet-proof vest? The beef between 50 cent and Game continues, as does the gunfire.

about Game, he went on a tangent. 50 said the Game's album is all concepts he decided not to use for *The Massacre* (50's new album). Game was about to get dropped by Interscope until 50's G-Unit picked him up, but now 50 has said that the Game doesn't listen to him and does what he wants to.

The Game responded by saying what most of us say; he's an adult. Even more crucial is the fact that the Game was only signed to a

one-album deal.

This caused the Game to go to Hot 97 Monday night to confront 50 about his comments. Shots rang out and one of the Game's Black Wall Street cohorts got shot, but he is doing well. I heard Game has teamed Nas and Jadakiss, with production from Cool and Dre, for a diss record that should be released this week.

Industry insiders have said the beef is

really because of Game's high sales numbers. I just saw the new video for "Hate it or Love it" and it was tight.

This whole situation has upset Dr. Dre because he likes the money he's made off *The Documentary* and wants Game back. 50, on the other hand, is upset with **Eminem**, Dr. Dre and Interscope Records for what he sees as a lack of promotion. He says he had to release "Disco Inferno" himself to get a buzz going for his album.

Another ironic side note about 50 Cent is that his single "Candy Shop" which is produced Scott Storch was originally for **Fat Joe** but Joe didn't like it and wanted Storch to tweak the beat. Before he could change it, 50 heard it and had to have it. Storch checked with Joe and he said it was OK to give the beat to him.

One thing is for sure. 50's new album is better than his debut, and the Game's for that matter.

The KKK is mad at **Tim McGraw** for his duet and video with **Nelly**. It was reported that clan members expressed their discontent (via a Web site) with McGraw's video because it shows "sub-humans" (black people) expressing the same emotions as "humans" (white people), which is not possible according to their beliefs.

I was researching the Game and his record label and stumbled on to information about the real Black Wall Street in **Tulsa, Okla.** Did you know Oklahoma was originally set aside as territory for Indians and Black people in America?

I educated myself on the Tulsa Riots that took place June 1, 1921. Google can get you some serious knowledge that's been buried. It was the first time America used planes in combat. The Red Cross was the only place to help the black community, so donate some blood.

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## Happening This Week

COMPILED BY Erika Berg  
STAFF WRITER

### Tuesday, March 22

Against Me!, The Loved Ones and Smoke or Fire are playing at 9 p.m. at Sokol Underground. Tickets are \$10. Advanced tickets are available at all Homer's locations or at [www.onepercentproductions.com](http://www.onepercentproductions.com).

### Wednesday, March 23

The Funny Bone comedy club is showcasing Emo Philips, who has performed on *Late Night with David Letterman*. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$10. If you wear your official Funny Bone T-shirt, you get in for free on Wednesdays.

### Thursday, March 24

McFly's Center Street Tavern hosts "Thirsty Thursdays" every week where you can enjoy Falstaff, Schiltz, Old Milwaukee, Old Style Light and PBR for just \$1 each. Also take advantage of

their "All You Can Eat Tacos" for just \$3.49 (Thursdays only).

### Friday, March 25

The Nadas, Lovetap and Oxygen are playing at the Ranch Bowl at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door and \$8 if bought in advance at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

### Saturday, March 26

Sing karaoke at Clancy's Pub on 7128 Pacific St. from 9 p.m. to close. There is also a margarita special for \$2.75 each.

### Sunday, March 27

The Spring 2005 Student Art Exhibition is under way at the UNO Art Gallery through April 1. The exhibition is featuring Steve Elliott, assistant professor of art and design at Wayne State College. Located on first floor of the Weber Fine Arts Building and admission is free. Hours for Sunday are 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.



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HOOT  
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## Wish You Were There: Spring break concerts

REVIEW BY SARAH LEGG

FEATURES EDITOR

Goldfinger made its triumphant return to Sokol Auditorium March 6 after a near three-year hiatus from the venue. As always, the band impressed the crowd, this time with a half-naked man wearing a sparkly thong, a blown fuse and a power-filled cover of "99 Red Balloons."

The band played a few songs from its



Josh Bashara

Goldfinger invites fans onstage during "Mable," a crowd favorite.

latest effort, *Disconnection Notice*, which hit streets February 15, but the better portion of its show was dedicated to songs like "Superman" and "Here in your Bedroom"—two songs that any veteran fan would appreciate to hear.

During "Mable," a fuse was blown and the speakers went out through the packed auditorium, but that didn't stop Goldfinger from playing on. The decade-old band

turned its amps out to finish the show for their fans, which goes to show that it really does appreciate its fans.

Goldfinger ended its set with "99 Red Balloons", during which the speakers turned back on, providing for a plateau ending tailored perfectly to the high-energy show that Goldfinger puts on.

While some lucky people were lying on the beach or skiing the slopes enjoying their week off from school, there was a great show at the Ranch Bowl to keep non-travelers entertained.

Once upon a time, there was a moment where ska music was king. Since then, ska music has taken a dive down and nu-metal and pop-punk have taken over. March 14 brought back those old feelings and the kids broke out the old checkered Vans slippers to dance the night away with Catch 22.

Opening for Catch 22 were Don't Look Down, Lost City Angels and Spitalfield.

Lost City Angels is that in-your-face, we-don't-take-nothin'-from-nobody punk band that leaves you thinking how cool you really aren't and wishing you could be as sassy as its frontman. The band returned to entertain the half-filled Ranch Bowl.

Don't Look Down is your generic pop-punk band with catchy guitar solos that make you want to dance. Its guitar player, Steve Lemon, played a song from his new

solo acoustic project at the end of the set.

Next up was Chicago-native Spitalfield. Most people have heard Spitalfield, but probably didn't realize it. The band's songs have been on MTV multiple times during shows. Spitalfield is out in support of their next album, *Stop Doing Bad Things*, which hits stores today. You can expect good things to come from this indie, pop-punk band. Spitalfield will be a household name along the ranks of Taking Back Sunday and Fall Out Boy. The band's unique sound is like no other, it's definitely something worthy of a listen, not to mention Spitalfield's live show, which was definitely fun to watch and rock out to.

Catch 22, an almost decade-old homage to ska-punk music, headlined the much-anticipated show. I told myself that I wasn't going to skank or dance at all due to a sickness from hell that had struck me, but when these guys went on stage, the energy was just too much, and I couldn't help but dance.

The band has all of the workings that one would expect in a ska-punk band, horns and all. Audience participation is one key thing in putting on a great punk show, and these guys did not disappoint. The band played songs both old and new, including



Bre Gehlken

Spitalfield bassist T.J. Minich (right) and singer/guitar player Mike Rose rock the Ranch Bowl in support of their latest release *Stop Doing Bad Things*, which hit stores today.

"9 Millimeter and Three-Piece Suit," a crowd favorite from way back in 1998, and "Motown Cinderella" from its 2004 release *Dinosaur Sounds*.

This New Jersey native six-piece has been busy this last year with the release of a live CD/DVD double-disc and its latest EP, *Dinosaur Sounds*.

It was amazing to see that Omaha actually remembers how to dance to a good ska band.

REVIEW BY JOEL HARTUNG

STAFF WRITER

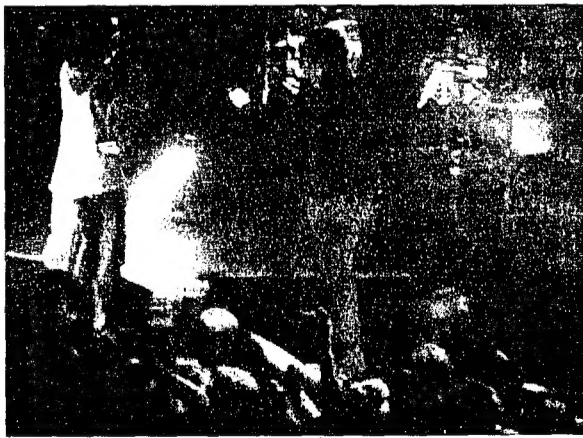
The Used and My Chemical Romance played to a sold out show on St. Patrick's Day, prompting a flurry of violence perpetrated by the angst-filled 16-year-olds that made up the majority of the audience. At least two people were rushed to the hospital from head injuries, and a number of other injuries were reported, some from dehydration.

The aggressive environment could only have been caused by one thing: anger at the severe lack of talent of the opening acts, Senses Fail and Killswitch Engage. These bands' style of death metal or screamo (or whatever the kids are calling it these days) were the musical equivalent of putting your ears in a blender. It was hard to tell where one song ended and the other began, as they all kind of meshed into one another.

Things did pick up a bit once My Chemical Romance took the stage. Starting its set with its newest single "Helena," the audience's negative energy exploded into a flurry of pushing mixed with the spontaneous creation of a number of mosh pits. Taking cover on the balcony, I was able to enjoy the music without worrying about an injury or broken camera.

Unfortunately the guitar player for My Chemical Romance was gone, due to a family emergency. A roadie stepped up and learned all of the songs three hours before the show, and played them almost flawlessly. Their set ended far too soon with their breakthrough single, "I'm Not Okay (I Promise)."

The Used began its set a little before 10 p.m., with the single "Take It Away," from its new album, *In Love and Death*. Most of the songs performed were from the album, although they did play a few old favorites. The crowd became more civilized, as they



Joel Hartung

The lead singers of The Used and My Chemical Romance on stage during the encore of their sold-out show.

became a backup choir for lead singer Bert McCracken during "The Taste of Ink" and "Blue and Yellow."

For an encore, both My Chemical Romance and The Used got together onstage and played "Under Pressure," the Queen and David Bowie made famous again by Vanilla Ice's stealing of the baseline for "Ice Ice Baby." The two bands collaborated on the remake of this song for a recent tsunami benefit.

Overall, the second half of the show was as good as the first half was bad, which made the whole thing OK in the end. The Used and My Chemical Romance both know how to put on an excellent and energetic show, and the young crowd was one of the wildest I have ever seen at Sokol.

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## Self-mutilation: a cutting-edge remedy for depression?

At 3 a.m., a woman quietly peeks her head in my door, sees me sitting up in bed with a fixed gaze, and smiles.

"Bed check," she says with forced sympathy. I don't look at her. I'm furious. She shuts the door, leaving me in darkness, and I start to cry for what must have been the tenth time that night.

Four hours earlier, I'm taking a piss into a little plastic cup with my last name scribbled on piece of masking tape on it. Tomorrow morning I'll test positive for marijuana. I don't care. I'm too furious.

I'm wearing a white hospital gown with blue polka dots on it. They've taken everything away from me. My shirt, my pants, even my shoes. I'm less of a flight risk if I'm wearing a gown, they say.

"Have you used any illegal drugs recently?" a staff member asks me.

"Yeah, some pot," I say, realizing that my drug test can't tell a lie, even if I can.

"Where did you get these wounds?" he asks, holding up my hand and running gloved fingers over a series of deep lacerations on top of my forearm. "Did you do this to yourself?"

"Yeah," I say, sighing. "But it's not a big deal. I wasn't trying to kill myself or anything."

An hour before this, I'm sitting in a consultation room at Richard Young Mental Health Center with my parents and a psychiatrist. My dad appears calm and collected, and I can tell my mom is fighting back tears. The psychiatrist has just told me that based on her analysis—but mainly because of the self-inflicted cuts on my arm—she has no choice but to admit me for observation. I'm a danger to myself, she says. It's a good thing my friends turned me in—they really care about me, she says.

I try explaining to her that I'm not suicidal. I tell her that I was planning on going to a weekend-long video game event tomorrow, and that someone who is suicidal wouldn't be looking forward to anything, let alone video games.

She doesn't buy it, and tells me she knows I'm smart enough to say something like that. She has my parents sign admittance papers.

Only I wasn't lying. I'm wasn't suicidal. I never have been.

It's around noon, earlier that day. I'm a junior in high school and I'm sitting in English class, bored out of my mind. A school security guard walks in the room and has a word with my teacher. The teacher nods and the security guard motions for me to come out in the hallway with him.

In the hallway, the guard tells me I have to walk with him to the school counselor's office. I feel a surge of adrenaline being released from my brain as I realize what this is probably all about.

As I walk to the office, I think back to about 30 minutes ago during passing period, between classes.

### Manic Digression



Josh Bashara

"So you feeling okay?" a good friend of mine says, consolingly.

"Yeah, better than yesterday," I say sarcastically. "I only think about her once every ten minutes now."

The first girlfriend I'd ever had broke up with me a few days earlier. Not only was this my first experience with heartbreak, but

she had broken up with me because we hadn't had sex yet. I was a virgin. I was naïve. I didn't know that people were supposed to have sex right away, even if they didn't love each other. How goddamned silly of me.

"Well, you'll be okay," my friend says. "You just gotta..."

He stops in mid-sentence as I habitually pull the sleeves on my shirt up, unintentionally revealing a horizontal pattern of red gashes running up my arm. My friend asks me if I did that to myself, but he already knows the answer. He's seen it on me before. The bell rings and he tells me we'll talk later, a worried and sincere look in his eyes.

It's the night before, and I'm running a large pocketknife along the top of my left arm. I'm careful; I push lightly enough to not need stitching, but hard enough to cut the skin open. Small trickles of red channel down the sides of my arm. My eyes water from the pain. I'm thinking about my ex. I move the knife up an inch and start another cut. I'm alone with my pain, and this is how I deal with it. I trade one hurt for another.

Like many other kids, I was a cutter. I'd been doing this for a few years now, but was careful about keeping it to myself. I always wore long-sleeved shirts until the cuts healed, when the scars weren't that noticeable.

Every time I was confronted with a seemingly unbearable amount of depression, I'd repeat this ritual as a way taking away the emotional pain, or at least distracting myself from it for awhile.

For some reason—an unorthodox one at that—it was therapeutic. I try to think up reasons why controlled self-mutilation isn't mentally safe, but I draw a blank, even today. I suppose some of the kids who do this may be more likely to succumb to suicidal fantasies, but I believe the majority of kids who do this aren't suicidal. I wasn't. I've always been scared of death, more for the sake of wanting to experience everything I can in the short time I have on this earth than anything.

Am I condoning this practice? Not really. I can only use myself as an example, and as sick as it may seem, drawing blood and forging scars helped me during a time when no psychiatrists, counselors or even my parents could. I found solace in a knife, and today, I find comfort knowing that I discovered that solace on my own terms.

## Erin Go Bragh, whatever that means

Having Saint Patrick's Day last Thursday provided many of us an opportunity to turn a regular old night into something else all together.

Generally, I'm not very festive when it comes to St. Pat's. I rarely wear green on this day. And if I don't and you pinch me, I will most likely hit you. Also, I don't see what the big deal with this day is. If you want to go out and get hosed on a Monday or Tuesday or Thursday as the case was, just go do it.

Do you really need an excuse?

Anyhow, this St. Pat's, I decided to go and have some fun. I met up with some friends at Clancy's on 168<sup>th</sup>. I won't complain too much this column, but charging \$3.50 for a can of schwag beer just because of the so-called holiday is extortion.

We got on the Clancy's bus, a staple of St. Pat's, and rode out to Elkhorn. Only one of our seven got off the bus to buy more \$3.50 beers.

Then the bus took us to Clancy's 114<sup>th</sup>. What a mess that place was. All the bars in Omaha, and we were going to wait in line for an hour to get inside? I think not. So we went down the street to The Fedora, where we waited in line about twenty minutes, which seems like an eternity when nature is not just calling, but yelling in your ear.

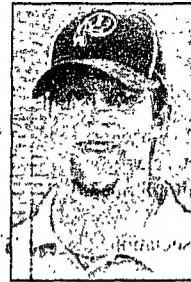
This is where the fun really began. Maybe it's been a long time since I've done the bar-hopping thing, or when I do I only go to the places where I have friends who bartend, but the prices in bars are freaking ridiculous. Seven bucks for a Red Bull and vodka. Not even good vodka, but plenty of it. Let me tell you, these people know how to mix a drink.

Anyway, after watching Creighton give away a first round victory to West Virginia in the NCAA's, we realized that the Clancy's bus had stopped running. A problem arose.

Now I don't advocate driving under the influence, but if we would have had a car, I'm sure somebody would have driven it back to 168<sup>th</sup>. But that was the problem. We had no car.

Apparently cabs were free, but we had a strong feeling that we'd be waiting more than an hour for one to come pick us up. That was not an option. The few people that were with us who had been drinking

### The Weekly Rant



Andrew Crnic

since noon definitely needed to get home faster than that. So I made a suggestion.

It was unthinkable. Most college age people would rather drive drunk than do what I did. But, save for the one snotty girl at the bar who overheard my plan, my friends were all for it.

I called my mom. One of my friends said his mom was out of the question

because she had already told him not to call. We had no choice. It was our only option.

She came to pick us up, no questions asked. Brought her Chevy Impala down to pick us up. Seven of us! Including my mom, eight in a car that's designed to hold five. Three in front, five in back.

Halfway home, one of the drinkers-since-noon had an accident. Well, it's not really an accident if you've been drinking since noon. You know it's going to occur, it's just a matter of when and where.

Fortunately the where was all over the side of my mom's car rather than the floor in the back seat.

The nice thing about Thursday was the chance encounters made at the bar. I saw people I had not seen in years. People I haven't seen in so long, I couldn't even remember their names. Partly the alcohol and partly memory loss.

So there's my night in a nutshell. Not as cynical as last week's column, not much to bitch about.

Now we're all back in the swing of things. Time to buckle down and bring this semester home successfully.

Good luck to all, and a word of advice to anyone, male or female, who may need it: Lose the attitude, it's very unbecoming.

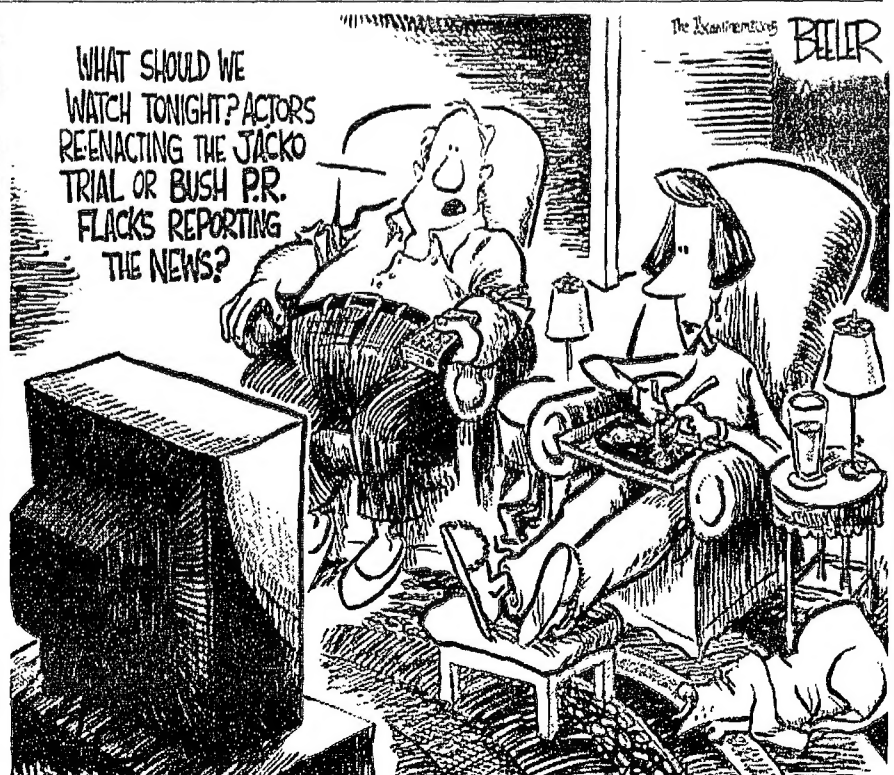


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Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

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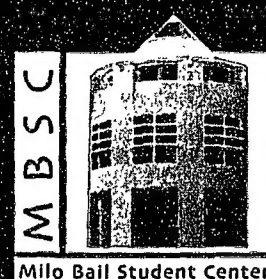
space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication. Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.





# MBSC Activities

## Milo Bail Student Center



### Tues., March 22<sup>nd</sup>

7 am Catholic Campus Ministry  
10 am Women's History Museum  
11 am Asian American Cultural Society  
11:30 am Stephenson Interns  
1:40 pm Muslim Student Association  
1:45 pm SAP User Group  
2:15 pm PHC Recruitment  
3 pm Delta Epsilon Chi  
5:30 pm Sigma Kappa  
6 pm Alpha Xi Delta  
7 pm Alpha Xi Delta  
7 pm Melanie Holland Lecture  
8 pm Greek Endeavor  
8 pm Lambda Theta Nu

### Wed., March 23<sup>rd</sup>

9 am Family Medical Leave Act  
10 am Women's History Museum  
11 am Asian American Cultural Society  
12 noon ALAS  
12 noon Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance  
12 noon Emerging Leaders  
2:30 pm Faculty Senate ACA Committee

3 pm Teacher Preparation Orientation  
3:30 pm Northwestern Mutual  
4 pm Greek Week  
5:30 pm Kappa Delta Pi  
7:30 pm ROSAS

### Thurs., March 24<sup>th</sup>

10 am Student Affairs Staff Meeting  
10 am Consider This...  
11:30 am Lenten Luncheon  
11:30 am Cesar Chavez Luncheon  
11:30 am Program Review  
12 noon Impact  
1 pm Walt Disney World  
1:30 pm Academic Advisors  
3:30 pm Gerontology Alumni & Students  
5 pm Program Review  
5 pm SPJ Speaker  
5 pm Pan African Gathering  
5:30 pm Delta Sigma Pi  
6 pm Delta Sigma Pi  
7 pm Student Government

### Fri., March 25<sup>th</sup>

11:30 am Program Review

11:30 am Interfraternity Council  
12 noon AA  
12 noon Student Leadership Council  
1 pm GSO/AID  
1:30 pm AAUP  
5 pm Theta Chi  
6:30 pm The Rock  
6:30 pm Christ on Campus

### Sat., March 26<sup>th</sup>

5 pm Muslim Student Association

### Sun., March 27<sup>th</sup>

No Activities

### Mon., March 28<sup>th</sup>

11am NCNW  
11:30 am March Mavness  
12 noon The Rock  
12 noon AA  
12 noon Master Success  
12 noon The Grove Meditation  
12 noon African American Organization  
2 pm AAUP

4:30 pm Panhellenic  
5 pm Chi Omega  
7:30 pm Christian Student Fellowship  
8 pm College Democrats  
8:30 pm Circle K  
9 pm Campus Crusade

### Tues., March 29<sup>th</sup>

7 am Catholic Campus Ministry  
11:30 am Stephenson Interns  
11:30 am UNO Black Women  
11:30 am March Mavness  
1:40 pm Muslim Student Association  
2:15 pm PHC Recruitment  
2:30 pm Patrick Borchers Lecture  
3 pm Delta Epsilon Chi  
4:30 pm Walgreens  
5 pm Student Marketing Association  
5:30 pm Sigma Kappa  
6 pm Alpha Xi Delta  
6 pm Emerging Leaders  
6:30 pm Faculty Senate/Staff Advisory Banquet  
7 pm Alpha Xi Delta  
8 pm Greek Endeavor  
8 pm Lambda Theta Nu

## Classified Ads

### NOTICES

Advertising will be rejected that discriminates based on age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, marital status or sexual orientation.

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He won his third championship as a head coach, the first at home. UNO's wrestling program is nothing without Denney, the emotional and spiritual leader of its young men for 26 seasons.

The team's "team-first" personality is a reflection of Denney's own personality. They do it the right way. For the first time since the award was given out, the team ranked first academically won the national championship. UNO had nine Academic All-Americans

While it may not have been exactly what he wanted, Tovar closed out his career in glorious fashion. By not letting a loss get to him, he was able to storm his way back to a third-place finish. Those points were important for the team to get from a spark plug like Tovar. He sparked the Mavericks last year as well. About his battle back following the loss, Denney just said, "Wow."

He was 4-0 after his season was supposed to be over. He replaced injured two-time All-American Mitch Waite and qualified for his third national tournament. His advancement point was big for UNO in the first round. His only losses were to the third and fourth-place winners. Not bad for a back up. Next year, he will contend for a starting spot, and will be one of perhaps just three senior starters.

If Tovar was the spark, then Dominguez was the gas that fueled the fire. He rode a hot streak through the NCAA tournament that began at regionals ... last year. There are few wrestlers that scramble better than Dominguez. His quickness and matawareness can put opponents on their back when they think they have an advantage. Without his semifinal win, UNO had almost no shot at a team title.

Unger won some of the toughest matches of the year by beating out teammates everyday in the wrestling room. He had to take the spot from last year's runner up Allibone. Just one win shy of All-American status, the freshman is one of the typical Denney wrestlers that does it the right way. That's something you can find up and down the line up, and Unger embodies it well. He will be good for years to come.

## A dream is a wish the heart makes: Maverick wrestlers proved it again with second title

J. PARKER ADAIR  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

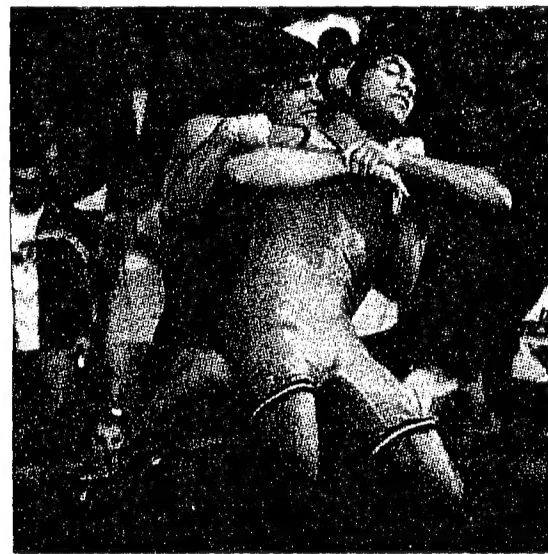
Everybody loves the Cinderella story. That is what March sports are all about. There is an appeal of the upset. Fans want to see the team that isn't supposed to win come

to an underrated Pittsburgh-Johnstown team.

This year, UNO was the favorite all season long. They were supposed to win the title. They were supposed to do it at home. The Mavericks won the National Dual Tournament. They headed into the final dual with Augustana just three wrestling weekends away from going wire-to-wire and winning a second-consecutive national title.

That is when the Vikings took over the top spot and became the favorite to drop the defending champions. On February 18, things changed for the Mavericks. They lost that dual 20-19. Two-time All-American Mitch Waite was out for the season with an injury, and the next week, the Vikings won the North Region tournament by qualifying all 10 starters. Augustana took the top spot from UNO and looked like it could win the championship on the UNO campus.

Somehow, Head Coach Mike Denney found a way to be the favorite and



Steve Houlton  
UNO's Patrick Allibone has a tight grip on Findlay's Angelo Vettese.

out victorious.

Last season, the UNO wrestling team was that Cinderella story, coming from behind and pulling out the upset over highly favored North Dakota State. They won the NCAA Division II Wrestling National Championship on the last match of the tournament.

In 1999, favored UNO lost the NCAA Division II Wrestling Championship at home

the underdog at the same time. In a déjà vu sort of way, the Mavericks captured their second-consecutive national championship in the final three matches.

The season motto was "The Race to Omaha, Tour de Mavericks: Battle

Ready."

Nobody could have predicted a better slogan.

In July, the wrestling team lost a brother. Jesse Greise - a UNO wrestler, who's career was cut short from shoulder injuries - died in a kayaking accident. The team put up a banner and dedicated the season to him. Their national championship sweatshirts from last season bore his initials.

Early in the season, injuries plagued the team. J.D. Naig missed a lot of matches, as did several other All-Americans like Dustin Tovar.

A team with so much talent had too much at 149 pounds. Shane Unger, Patrick Allibone and Jake Naig battled for the starting spot. Unger won out, leaving last year's runner-up Allibone without a spot, temporarily.

They were the team that was supposed to win the championship, the overdog. They won. Toward the end of the season, they were counted out more times than Mike Tyson opponents. It looked to many like they would fall short at home, again. They didn't.



Steve Houlton  
UNO's Les Sigman wrestles Minn. St. Moorhead's Chris Tuscherer.



Chris Machian  
Dustin Tovar hugs head coach Mike Denney after a victory.

They did the improbable and the expected at the same time.

Even though they looked beat down and worn out, the bumpy road solidified the Maverick warriors as battle ready.

You can never count out a Denney team. Each member works hard, doing whatever it takes to live happily ever after. Disney did make *Cinderella II: Dreams Come True*.

It isn't about fairy tale parody in this case. Some people just need to believe in magic lasting past midnight. They need to remember the words of Houston Rockets Head Coach Rudy Tomjanovich after his team did the improbable by winning its second-consecutive NBA championship.

"Never underestimate the heart of a champion!"

His first two matches were almost exactly the same as last year. Get taken down early, and come back to pin in the first match. Win the quarterfinal in double-overtime. Then advance to the final. It worked last year, so he did it again. This year, he changed the final result by standing on top of the podium. He had to beat national qualifying teammate Chas DeVetter to earn the starting job.



Last year, he earned a lot of bonus points in the NCAA tournament that helped the Mavericks win. He did the same this year. Naig scored five bonus points, and his championship win all but clinched the team race for UNO. Just a sophomore, Naig went wire-to-wire as the top-ranked 165-pound wrestler. If it weren't for Sigman, Naig may have been the favorite for outstanding wrestler.



Conlin improved more than any other starter on the team. He did it between his semifinal loss at regionals and the NCAA tournament. Many that saw his quarterfinal match at the Sapp Fieldhouse thought the official should have awarded him the takedown at least one of two times in the first period that eventually cost him the match. He battled back to a needed win for seventh.



Strandberg had an awful draw. The first match gave him a loss to top-ranked Plamen Paskalev. After winning a thrilling first-round consolation bout, the two-time qualifier drew defending national champion Jeff Sylvester. Still, Strandberg was able to earn valuable team points for the Mavericks this year, something the doctors prevented him from last year.



If there was a way to go three seasons with a single-digit loss total and still be the most underrated wrestler in the country, Sigman found it. The junior has not had an offensive point scored on him in his 12 NCAA tournament matches but was overlooked for outstanding wrestler. They didn't need him to close out the team title, but nobody doubted he would have. He fell one-point shy of a technical fall in the championship, and scored 24 team points.

